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Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Previously Presented) An HVAC duct and pillar assembly for an automotive vehicle comprising:

a pillar having a vertically extending section and a horizontally extending section, the pillar having a wall defining a hollow space extending axially therein, the hollow space communicating with a first opening through the vertical section and a second opening through the horizontal section;

an HVAC duct disposed within the hollow space and extending between the first and second openings through the pillar, the duct having an air inlet aligned with the first opening and an air outlet aligned with the second opening;

a layer of a cellular structure disposed between the duct and the wall of the pillar, and expandable adhesive between the cellular structure and the wall for bonding the cellular structure to the wall.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented) The HVAC duct and pillar assembly according to claim 1 wherein the duct is made of polyamide and the wall of the pillar is made of sheet metal.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented) The HVAC duct and pillar assembly according to claim 2 wherein the sheet metal is steel.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented) The HVAC duct and pillar assembly according to claim 3 wherein interior trim is disposed adjacent to an interior wall portion of the wall of the pillar and body structure is disposed adjacent to an exterior wall portion of the wall of the pillar.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented) The HVAC duct and pillar assembly according to claim 1 wherein the cellular structure is structural foam.

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Claim 6 (Previously Presented) A duct and vehicular frame member assembly, comprising:

a hollow vehicular frame member constructed and arranged to support exterior structure of the vehicle, the frame member having a wall defining an axially extending space with lateral openings through the frame member;

a duct extending coaxially in the space and having duct openings aligned with the lateral openings through the frame member, and

a layer of a cellular structure disposed between the duct and the wall, the layer of the cellular structure being adhered to the wall of the hollow vehicular frame member.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented) The duct and vehicular frame member assembly according to claim 6 wherein the vehicular frame member is a pillar and wherein the duct is an HVAC duct with an inlet and an outlet aligned with the openings.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented) The duct and vehicular frame member according to claim 6 wherein the vehicular frame member is made of metal and the duct is made of a resinous material.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented) The duct and vehicular frame member according to claim 6 wherein the cellular structure is structural foam.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented) The duct and vehicular frame member assembly of claim 6 further including expandable adhesive between the cellular structure and the wall.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented) The duct and vehicular frame member assembly of claim 6 wherein the cellular structure is expandable foam which expands between the duct and the wall.

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Claim 12 (Previously Presented) The duct and wall assembly of claim 11 wherein the structural foam is polyurethane.

Claims 13-18 Canceled.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented) A rear HVAC duct and pillar assembly for an automotive vehicle, wherein the assembly has reduced space consumption with increased cross-sectional area enclosed by the pillar, comprising:

a pillar having a vertically extending section and a horizontally extending section, the pillar having a wall defining a hollow space extending axially therein, the hollow space communicating with a first opening through the vertical section and a second opening through the horizontal section;

an HVAC duct disposed within the hollow space and extending between the first and second openings through the pillar, the duct having an air inlet aligned with the first opening and an air outlet aligned with the second opening;

a layer of a cellular structure disposed between the duct and the wall of the pillar, and expandable adhesive between the cellular structure and the wall for bonding the cellular structure to the wall wherein the cross-sectional area of the pillar is increased while reducing the space consumption of the assembly to meet noise and vibration requirement for a first structure mode by having a larger section size for the rear pillar.

Claim 20 (Currently Amended) The HVAC duct and pillar assembly according to claim 19 wherein the duct is made of ~~polyamie~~ polyamide and the wall of the pillar is made of sheet metal.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented) The HVAC duct and pillar assembly according to claim 20 wherein the sheet metal is steel.

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Claim 22 (Previously Presented) The rear HVAC duct and pillar assembly according to claim 21 wherein interior trim is disposed adjacent to an interior wall portion of the wall of the pillar and body structure is disposed adjacent to an exterior wall portion of the wall of the pillar.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented) The HVAC duct and pillar assembly according to claim 19 wherein the cellular structure is structural foam.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented) The HVAC duct and pillar assembly of claim 1 wherein the pillar is a rear pillar.